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Eleanor Roosevelt

Eleanor Roosevelt, born Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, was a trailblazing figure in American history, known for her extensive work in politics, diplomacy, and humanitarian efforts, as well as her influential private life.

Professional Life

Eleanor Roosevelt redefined the role of First Lady during her husband Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency from 1933 to 1945. She was deeply involved in social issues and used her position to advocate for human rights, women's rights, and

social justice. She held press conferences, wrote a daily newspaper column called "My Day," and delivered numerous speeches.

After Franklin's death, Eleanor continued her public service. She was appointed as a delegate to the United Nations General Assembly by President Harry S. Truman and played a pivotal role in drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Her work earned her the title "First Lady of the World" from President Truman.

Private Life

Eleanor Roosevelt was born on October 11, 1884, in New York City. She faced significant personal

challenges early in life, losing both parents by the age of ten. She was educated at Allenswood Academy in London, where she was influenced by the headmistress, Marie Souvestre, who encouraged her intellectual and social development.

In 1905, she married her fifth cousin once removed, Franklin D. Roosevelt. They had six children, one of whom died in infancy. Their marriage faced difficulties, particularly after Eleanor discovered Franklin's affair with her social secretary, Lucy Mercer, in 1918. Despite this, they remained married and worked together on many public projects.

Eleanor's private life was marked by her independence and activism. She was involved in various social causes, including the League of Women Voters and the Women's Trade Union League. She also co-founded Val-Kill Industries, a non-profit furniture factory, and taught at the Todhunter School, a private girls' school in New York City.

Eleanor Roosevelt's legacy is one of tireless advocacy for human rights and social justice, both in her professional and private lives. Her contributions continue to inspire and influence generations.